



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: T. Sauter

Attorney Docket No.: KTW011889

Application No.: 09/145,381

Group Art Unit: 3618

Filed: September 1, 1998

Examiner: H.V. Phan

Title: VIBRATION DAMPENING SKATE FRAME

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Seattle, Washington 98101

November 25, 2002

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Please cancel Claim 2.

Please amend Claim 1 as follows:

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1. (Twice Amended) A skate frame for an in-line skate, the skate having a shoe portion and a plurality of wheels capable of traversing a surface, the skate frame comprising:

(a) an elongate first structural member having first and second sidewalls depending downwardly from a first upper surface, the lower ends of the sidewalls being spaced to receive the wheels therebetween; and

(b) flexible vibration dampening means integrally formed with the sidewalls of the first structural member for absorbing at least a portion of vibrational energy transmitted from the surface to the shoe portion when the skate traverses the surface, wherein the flexible vibration dampening means comprises a contoured portion of each of the first and second sidewalls of the first structural member, the contoured portion having a predetermined cross sectional shape to permit the sidewalls to flex, thereby absorbing at least a portion of the vibrational energy associated with traversing the surface.

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